

Cascade County Special Commission Meeting January 5, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.



325 2nd Avenue North, Great Falls, MT Commission Chambers, Room 105 or via Zoom Webinar

The Board of Cascade County Commissioners will also be broadcasting the Commission Meeting via Zoom.

Webinar participants must register in advance for the Commission Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN ELH9VyOkRJmm4iugLTnGnA

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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Webinar ID: 812 4961 7234 Passcode: 372971

Please note the agenda order is tentative and subject to change by the Board without prior notice.

Therefore, members of the public are encouraged to be in attendance at the time the meeting is scheduled to begin.

Public comment during public participation is limited to a maximum seven (7) minutes.

Call to Order

Chairman Joe Briggs

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Motion to Approve or Disapprove

Resolution 21-80:

A Resolution Rescinding the Emergency Enaction of Stage 1 Fire Restrictions in Cascade County. Effective: December 28, 2021.

- 2. Public comment on any public matter that is not on the meeting agenda, and that is within the Commissioners' jurisdiction. (MCA 2-3-103)
- 3. Adjournment.

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF RESCINDING THE EMERGENCY ENACTION OF STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS

RESOLUTION 21-80

WHEREAS MCA 10-3-402 provides for the Presiding Officer (Chairman) of a county commission to unilaterally make an emergency declaration and MCA 2-3-112 provides that the requirements for public participation and notice do not apply to "an agency decision that must be made to deal with an emergency situation affecting the public health, welfare or safety;" and,

WHEREAS, on December 3rd, 2021, the rapidly deteriorating fire conditions due to low humidity, unusually high temperatures and extreme blowing and gusting winds across the county were significant contributing factors and have caused Cascade County's Disaster and Emergency Services Director and the majority of the Rural Fire Chiefs to request Cascade County to move into stage 1 fire restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, all three commissioners concurred with the request of for the implementation of stage 1 fire restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, Commission Chairman Joe Briggs did authorize that Cascade County move into Stage 1 Fire Restrictions immediately as of December 3rd, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Cascade County Commissioners on December 14th, 2021, did affirm and ratify the action taken by Chairman Briggs to enact and impose Stages 1 Fire Restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, fire conditions have now changed substantially and the majority of our partner agencies and rural Fire chiefs concur that the stage 1 fire restrictions are no longer warranted; and

WHEREAS, all three commissioners concur that the emergency conditions that existed to implement the stage 1 fire restrictions no longer exist; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Cascade County Commissioners has been advised that the burn permit process is available to mitigate weather and wind conditions as may be warranted.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that by Cascade County Commission Chairman Joe Briggs, as the presiding officer of the Board of Cascade County Commissioners, declares, effective immediately, that Stage 1 Fire Restrictions are hereby rescinded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the copies of this Emergency Declaration be filed with the County Clerk and Recorder and the Cascade County Disaster and Emergency Services Director.

Dated this 28th day of December 2021

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

Joe Briggs, Chairman